## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:		)	#2/A
	FINKL, Charles W.	)	, /
	UNDERYS, Algirdas A.	)	Group Art Unit:
		)	(To be assigned)
Application	No.:	)	
	(To be assigned)	)	
		)	Primary Examiner
Filing Date:	01/25/02 (estimated)	)	(To be assigned)
		)	
Entitled:	METHOD AND APPARATUS	)	
	FOR PREVENTING CRACKING	)	
	OF THE SHANK JUNCTION OF	)	
	DIE BLOCKS	)	

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above application as follows:

## **IN THE TITLE:**

Please change the title of the application to read:

Method for Softening a Selected Portion of a Steel Object by Heating

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION TEXT:**

page 1, after the heading and before the first line of text, please insert the following paragraph:

"This application is a division of application serial number 09/160,895 filed September 25, 1998, which application in turn is a continuation-in-part of application serial number